

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

JULY 13, 2005

PRESENT: Rick Cleary, Eric Santini, Laurie Fiore and Tim Olmsted

ABSENT: Laura Sherman, John Luginbuhl and Anna Sanko

STAFF

PRESENT: Reanna Goodreau, Recording Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Cleary called the Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

III. NEW BUSINESS: NONE

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. CEDAS: Camera Friendly Communities—Update

Chairman Cleary suggested tabling this item to the August meeting since Commissioner Sanko is not present.

TABLED TO THE AUGUST 17, 2005 MEETING.

2. Farm Initiatives—Update

Chairman Cleary stated that the Farmers' Market has begun and is set up at Brookside Park on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm until the fall. Commissioner Fiore asked if farmers not from Ellington could join the market and who they should speak with. Reanna Goodreau stated that there is information for interested parties on the Town's website, which includes a contact person.

3. Business Survey—Update

Chairman Cleary stated that he reviewed the personal property list and crossed off businesses that the survey should not be sent to.

4. Tax Abatement Policies/Procedures—Update

Reanna Goodreau explained that she had sent the draft tax abatement policy and procedures to staff for their review and requested their input for the August meeting.

5. Status of Development Fees—Update

Chairman Cleary explained that Planimetrics has been hired, in part, to review the land use fees. He asked if the Planning & Zoning Commission has reviewed the fees and was told by staff that the PZC had a lengthy agenda and tabled all items except the public hearings during the June 27, 2005 meeting. Chairman Cleary stated that the PZC had planned to have two meetings a month, one meeting for development issues and a second meeting for reviewing the regulations for changes that could be made without updating the Plan of Conservation and Development.

MOVED (OLMSTED), SECONDED (SANTINI) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SEND A LETTER TO THE FIRST SELECTMAN AND THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION (PZC) REQUESTING THAT THE PZC SCHEDULE AN ADDITIONAL MEETING EACH MONTH IN ORDER TO REVIEW THE ZONING REGULATIONS FOR CHANGES THAT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT UPDATING THE PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT.

6. Review of the Economic Development Chapter of the Current Plan of Conservation & Development & Zoning Regulations

Chairman Cleary stated that the commission had agreed on eight areas of review, which included the Airport, Route 83, Windermere Avenue, the Northwest Corner, Crystal Lake, the Village Center, Agribusiness, and Open Space. The commission discussed putting together a subcommittee to investigate the possibility of having some sort of medical center. The commission believes that having a medical center in town would be beneficial, especially with new age-restricted developments in town. The commission also discussed the importance of retail and service businesses along the Route 83 Corridor.

MOVED (SANTINI), SECONDED (FIORE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO FORM A SUBCOMMITTEE IN ORDER TO INVESTIGATE MEDICAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES WITH AREA HOSPITALS.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the May 11, 2005 Meeting Minutes

MOVED (OLMSTED), SECONDED (SANTINI) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MAY 11, 2005 MEETING MINUTES WITH THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATION: UNDER UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEM #6, PAGE 4, 2ND TO LAST SENTENCE, AFTER VILLAGE CENTER ADD “AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AGRIBUSINESS & OPEN SPACE.”

2. Correspondence:

- a. Memo to Dennis Milanovich from Matt Davis, dated 6/16/05 (Rob Phillips-Recommendation for Permanent Appointment)

SO NOTED.

Reanna Goodreau noted that she received and forwarded the affidavit from Trueb Associates, LLC to the Assessor. She also stated an invoice for CEDS from the MetroHartford Alliance was paid by the First Selectman from the EDC's budget. She asked if anyone knew what this invoice was for and no one knew. She stated that she would contact the MetroHartford Alliance to look into it further.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (SANTINI), SECONDED (FIORE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Reanna Goodreau
Recording Secretary